BEN 10

TM MC

GORDON PURCELL 2013

CARTOON NETWORK

BEN
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DIGITAL

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CHAPTER 1

art by **Gordon Purcell**
colors by **Zac Atkinson**

FLIGHT 227 TO SAN DIEGO. 9 AM.

FAMOUS HAS FLAVORS. THERE'S "PRETTY FAMOUS," ALL THE WAY TO "MEGASTAR FAMOUS." I'M NOT MEGASTAR FAMOUS. AS **IF**.

BUT WHEN YOU'RE PART OF A WORLD-SAVING GROUP LIKE **THE PLUMBERS**, PEOPLE KNOW YOU.

EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE KNOWS YOUR NAME, SOMETIMES YOU CAN FEEL LONELY. LIKE THERE'S A WALL BETWEEN YOU AND THE WORLD.

ARE YOU BEN 10?

UM... YEP.

ARE YOU ON A MISSION?

I WISH. THEN WE COULD BE IN OUR OWN PLANE.

OH, STOP GRUMBLING.

WE'RE ON VACATION.

INSIDE THE WALL, THERE'S FOLKS LIKE ME AND MY PARTNER, ROOK. THERE'S MY GRANDPA MAX, MY COUSIN GWEN, AND MY OLD PAL KEVIN.

AND THERE'S EVERYONE **ELSE**. AND THEY WANNA **KNOW** YOU. ALWAYS.

I'M AFRAID YOUR VACATION—

—HAS BEEN CUT SHORT!

UH-OH. I **KNOW** THAT VOICE.

WHAM

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA, SUNDER, WHAT THE—

SORRY, BEN. I'VE GOT A CONTRACT THAT SAYS I NEED ***YOU*** OR YOUR ***OMNITRIX***, BUT EITHER WAY YOU'RE COMING WITH ME.

FIRST OFF, I AM GOING ON ***VACATION***. SECOND, YOU'RE TRYING TO GRAB ME ON A PLANE? WITH WHAT, A TRAVEL PILLOW?

CERAMIC HARDWARE. SORRY, BEN. CAN'T BE HELPED.

WANT ME TO TRAP HIM WITH SOME ALIEN MAGIC?

NAH, WE'RE GOOD.

LET'S GO.

RECOGNIZE THIS? IT'S CALLED *BIG CHILL.*

HEYYYY...

I'M NOT GONNA FIGHT YOU TODAY, SUNDER.

WHAM

A LITTLE HIGHER. NO AIR UP HERE.

I. AM ON. VACATION.

NIGHT, SUNDER.

TRUST ME. HE'LL BOUNCE.

MEANWHILE—ON THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA.

CAPTAIN, THERE'S SOMETHING ENORMOUS UNDER US.

IT'S... IT'S LIFTING US UP!

GET US OUT OF HERE! LET'S GO!

KSSSST

THIS IS SSSERPENT. SURRENDER YOUR VESSEL. PREPARE TO BE BOARDED AND QUESTIONED.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING. WE'RE A FISHING VESSEL! WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

YOU ARE MANY THINGS—

—BUT YOU ARE NOT A FISHING VESSEL. NOW, WHERE ARE THEY HIDING?

PREPARE FOR EVACUATION. SEND OUT THE ABANDON SHIP SIGNAL. SEND A DISTRESS BEACON BACK TO THE—

RIP

I'M GOING TO ASK YOU AGAIN...

WHERE ARE THEY?

PROTOCOL SUGGESTS WE ALL KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THESE CROWDS.

COME ON, ROOK. YOU DON'T HAVE TO ACT LIKE YOU'RE ON A STAKEOUT. THIS IS A ***CRUISE***.

IT'S JUNE, ROOK. YOU ONLY GET ONE VACATION A YEAR. ***LIVE*** A LITTLE.

WHILE I APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY IN BRINGING ME ON THIS TRIP, I CONFESS I FIND THE RITUAL OF TWO WEEKS OF NO RESPONSIBILITIES TO BE HIGHLY CONFUSING.

COME ON, LET'S JOIN IN!

JOIN IN WHAT?

IT'S A ***CONGA LINE.***

A WHAT?

A CONGA LINE.

WHAT ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO DO?

YOU JUST GET IN LINE BEHIND PEOPLE AND... SWAY RHYTHMICALLY.

WHY?

BECAUSE...

JUST DO LIKE THOSE GIRLS ARE DOING.

I FIND MYSELF DISTRACTED BY THIS ENORMOUS ***ICE*** GIRL.

THAT IS ONE VERY BIG MERMAID.

HEY! IT'S ***BEN 10!***

ARE YOU HUNTING ALIENS?
WILL YOU SIGN MY FRISBEE?
TELL ME THIS ISN'T FUN.
IT'S... FINE.
WILL YOU SIGN MY ARM?
IS THAT ROOK?
I SIGN. I SMILE. IT'S NICE TO BE LIKED. RIGHT? RIGHT.
LATER—DINNER TIME.
YOU DOIN' ALL RIGHT?
YEAH. AND I GENUINELY APPRECIATE YOU BRINGING US.
YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK YOUR PROBLEM IS?
I HAVE A FEELING YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME.
LOOK. IT'S ***OKAY*** TO BE LONELY.
CAN WE NOT TALK ABOUT THIS?
OKAY.
'CAUSE I'M NOT. I'M NOT LONELY. NORMALLY I'M BUSY. TOO BUSY TO BE LONELY.
YOU CAN ***NEVER*** BE TOO BUSY TO BE LONELY.

EXCUSE ME.

SCUFFLE SCUFFLE SCUFFLE

YES?

UM. WOW...

I'M SORRY, ARE YOU... STEALING THAT ICE SCULPTURE?

NOT REALLY. -HUNH-

SO... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'M ACTUALLY JUST TRYING TO DESTROY IT.

DID IT DO SOMETHING TO YOU?

NO, I JUST FIND IT REALLY OFFENSIVE.

BUT—IT'S A *MERMAID.*

WELL, AND WHO GAVE THIS PERSON PERMISSION TO SCULPT IT?

WHAT?

-:SIGH:- LOOK. SOME THINGS ARE ***SACRED***. YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO SCULPT A MERMAID WITHOUT PERMISSION.

DUH.

WHO SAYS, THE MERMAID COUNCIL? I HAVE NEVER HEARD THAT. LIKE, EVER.

ARE YOU GOING TO HELP ME?

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS BUT ABSOLUTELY.

THERE.

YEAH, YOU CAN IMAGINE MY RELIEF.

WHERE IS MY SCULPTURE!

COME ON!

I DON'T KNOW, HE JUST SEEMS DOWN. I WISH WE COULD HELP—

WAS THAT...

WHERE DID YOU GO? *HEY! ICE SCULPTURE MURDERERS! WHERE ARE YOU?*

UM... WOW?

DO I LOSE POINTS IF I SAY "I GET THAT A LOT"?

A FEW.

FORGET I SAID IT.

I'M BEN. AND WE'RE VANDALIZING SCULPTURES *WHY*?

HEY, UM... GUYS. WERE YOU RUNNING FROM A... CHEF?

I THINK HE WAS MAINLY THE ICE SCULPTOR. SO. THIS IS—

LORELAI.

—LORELAI. AND THIS IS BASICALLY EVERYONE I KNOW.

BEN!

SO BEN WAS SHOWING OFF?

THAT'S EXACTLY HOW I TOOK IT.

SO, WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

HEY, DO YOU HEAR THAT HUMMING?

I HEAR IT. FROM WAY AHEAD OF US—

HUMMM

THEY'RE FIRING MISSILES!

WHOOOSH

MISSILES? OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH.

GUYS! PROTECT THE SHIP!

KRAKA-BOOM

WHOOOSH

COME ON, BEN, HURRY!

GUYS, IT'S NOT GOING FOR THE SHIP. IT'S GOING FOR THAT *OIL RIG.*

SNAKE MEN?

IF I DIDN'T KNOW WHO IT WAS BEFORE, I SURE DO NOW.

YOW!

SERVANTS OF TERRAPISCISS!

SURRENDER!

SHHAAKKT

I REPEAT! SURRENDER!

THEN, OUT OF NOWHERE, THERE'S A BLUE BOAT HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE SNAKE MEN!

NEVER!

THE BOAT IS ***ATTACKING*** THEM! MAYBE THEY'RE LOCAL HEROES FOR THIS SECRET CITY?

SSSERPENT? I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS PLACE IS—

—BUT YOU'RE NOT GETTING AN INCH CLOSER.

THIS IS NO CONCERN OF YOURS, BEN TENNYSON.

ANOTHER TIME.

OKAY, PEOPLE, WHAT THE HECK WAS—

—THAT?

SEEMS TO BE OVER, FOLKS.

BEN!

IT WAS... THERE WAS A BUILDING, A DOME ON THE WATER—THERE WERE PEOPLE IN THERE—AND THEN THEY WERE ***GONE.***

THAT GUY WHO ATTACKED... WHO WAS IT?

IT WAS ***SSSERPENT***. AND HE CALLED THE CITY... TERRAPISCISS.

TERRAPISCISS? LIKE PISCISS, THE FISH PLANET?

YEAH, BUT DID YOU SEE THE DEFENDER SHIP? IT CAME FROM ***NOWHERE.***

WHAT HAPPENED, BEN?

LORELAI! YOU'RE... BACK?

MY... GRANDMOTHER WAS... SLEEPING. I DECIDED NOT TO WAKE HER. IT SOUNDS LIKE I MISSED SOME EXCITEMENT?

OKAY, SO ***THAT*** WASN'T SUSPICIOUS.

OKAAAAY.

YOU DISAPPEARED WHEN THE ACTION STARTED. MAYBE A CIVILIAN WOULDN'T NOTICE, BUT I CAN'T PRETEND. I SAVE WORLDS FOR A ***LIVING***, LORELAI.

SO...

YES?

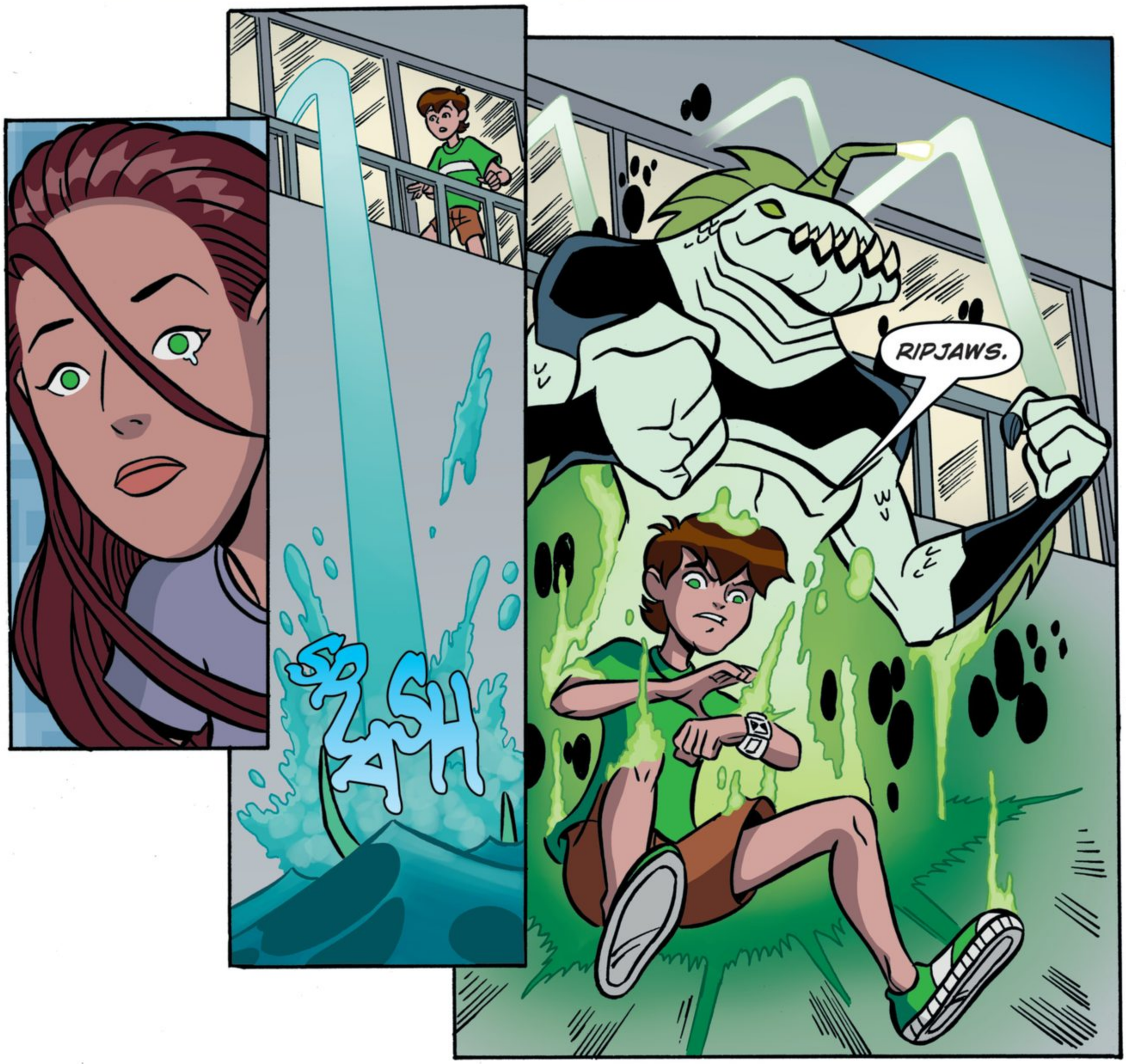
YOU'RE NOT WHAT YOU APPEAR TO BE, AND I HAVE TO KNOW.

WHY DON'T YOU INVITE YOUR GRANDMOTHER TO JOIN US FOR DESSERT?

ARE YOU LIKE ME, LORELAI?

ARE YOU A HERO?

WAIT! WAIT, COME ON! YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUN!


RIPJAWS.
SPLASH

GREAT. AM I IN FOR IT NOW.

CHAPTER 2

art by **Gordon Purcell**
colors by **Zac Atkinson**

MY NAME IS BEN TENNYSON. I'VE SEEN A MILLION THINGS THAT REGULAR PEOPLE DON'T KNOW EXIST...

WHAT?

...BUT NEVER THIS.

THIS ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE ***REAL***.

I ROLL WITH IT.

-KOFF- YOU'RE A ***MERMAID!***

UM. YEP. BUT WHY ARE YOU IN THAT... PISCISS FORM?

OH THIS... I CALL IT ***RIPJAWS***. I HAVE THE FORM OF A WARRIOR FROM THE PLANET PISCISS STORED ON MY OMNITRIX. THAT'S THE DEVICE I USE TO CHANGE SHAPES. I HAVE A ***LOT*** OF FORMS.

BEN!

YEAH?!

ARE YOU OKAY?

WE'RE... WE'RE FINE...

I MEAN, I'M FINE. SHE'S A ***MERMAID.***

YOU ALREADY SAID THAT.

RIGHT, BUT, I MEAN... OH MAN, ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE THINGS THAT LURE SHIPS TO THEIR DEATHS?

I THINK THAT'S A SIREN.

ISN'T THAT THE THING THAT CRUSHES SHIPS BETWEEN TWO GIANT—

YOU'RE THINKING OF THE CHARYBDIS.

WHICH, LIKE, GOES WITH THE SIREN?

WHICH GOES WITH THE SCYLLA.

ARE YOU SURE?

MERMAID. UNDERSEA MYTH STUFF IS KIND OF MY THING.

HOLY COW, YOU REALLY ***ARE*** A MERMAID.

SO... THE BLUE BOAT THAT CAME TO DEFEND THE CITY IN THE WATER. THAT WAS YOU PILOTING IT, RIGHT?

YEAH...

YOU DID REALLY GOOD AT TAKING ON THAT INVADING FORCE.

WELL, IT'S KIND OF MY JOB.

BUT, DO YOU KNOW WHO WAS ATTACKING US?

OH, ABSOLUTELY.

HE'S CALLED SSSERPENT. THE PLUMBERS KNOW ALL ABOUT HIM.

OH, OKAY, THE PLUMBERS ARE—

MY PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT THE PLUMBERS.

BUT WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT ***YOU***. YOUR CITY IS CALLED... TERRAPISCISS?

YES. WE ARE DESCENDANTS OF EXPLORERS FROM PISCISS, THE HOME OF THE FORM BEN NOW WEARS.

AH HAH!

IS THIS BETTER?

I THINK SO.

I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS. PLUMBER QUESTIONS.

SO YOU'RE MERMAIDS FROM OUTER SPACE!

"I KNOW JUST THE PLACE WE CAN TALK."

WILL OUR CRUISE SHIP NOTICE WE'RE GONE?

NO ONE WILL NOTICE! THEY WON'T BE DOCKING FOR DAYS.

WE RIDE IN LORELAI'S DEFENDER BOAT.

"I'LL MAKE SURE YOU GET BACK TO YOUR SHIP. BUT FOR NOW: PEOPLE OF EARTH...

"...WELCOME TO TERRAPISCISS.

CONTROL, THIS IS PRI— THIS IS LORELAI. SETTING: H2O HEAVY, PLEASE.

"H2O HEAVY"?

AN OXYGEN-BREATHER'S ENVIRONMENT.

THEY'RE CREATING AN AIR ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR VISIT.

MY DAUGHTER!

MOM! THESE ARE MY FRIENDS.

YOU MUST BE THE SHAPE-SHIFTER WHO CAME TO MY DAUGHTER'S AID.

THAT'S ME. BUT, UM, TO BE HONEST, SHE WAS DOIN' PRETTY GREAT ON HER OWN.

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MY MOTHER, QUEEN BEATRICE LA'MER.
WELL...
WAIT, YOU'RE A PRINCESS?
A MERMAID... PRINCESS... WARRIOR.
THAT RIGHT THERE IS A TRIPLE THREAT.
SHE IS OUR HEAD PROTECTOR.
AND YOU WOULD DO WELL TO REMEMBER THAT!
AND THIS IS ***KEELER***, THE HEAD OF THE GUARD.
KEEBLER? LIKE THE COOKIE ELVES?
KEELER.
AND THIS IS BEN, ROOK, GWEN, KEVIN. AND I'M MAX. WE REPRESENT THE PLUMBERS. WE'RE GUARDIANS OF THE EARTH.
ON THE ONE-QUARTER OF IT THAT MAKES UP DRY LAND, YOU MEAN.
BROOP BROOP BROOP
SORRY, WE NEED TO MOVE.
WHAT WAS THAT?
A CALL TO ACTION.
TERRAPISCISS MOVES AROUND CONSTANTLY.
WE TEND TO ANCHOR IN ONE SECTOR OF THE OCEAN, AND MOVE BETWEEN THE WAVES TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES.
THAT'S AMAZING! BUT... WHY DO ALL OF THIS ON YOUR OWN, IN SECRET?
IT'S A DEAL WE MADE LONG AGO.
WITH WHOM?
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW... THEM.

OKAY, SO... DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHY ONE OF OUR ENEMIES, SSSERPENT, WOULD COME AFTER YOU?

I DON'T KNOW. BUT HE ATTACKED ONE OF OUR SCOUT VESSELS YESTERDAY, LOOKING FOR OUR CURRENT LOCATION.

HELM, YOU CAN SILENCE THE ALARM. WHAT DO WE HAVE?

IT'S A CALL FOR HELP FROM THE INDIAN OCEAN.

THAT'S THE OTHER SIDE OF THE *WORLD*.

YEAH, IT IS. WANT TO SEE SOMETHING COOL?

THIS IS THE... *ENGINE*?

YES. IT WILL SEND US WHEREVER THE ALARM COMES FROM.

BUT WHO TRIGGERS THE ALARM?

THAT'S A TRICK OF THE TRADE.

MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE SHIP.

THIS IS REALLY AMAZING. HOW COULD THE PLUMBERS NOT EVEN KNOW THESE GUYS WERE HERE?

AND WHY TO US?

I HAVE NO IDEA. I MEAN, DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S KIND OF ODD? IF THEY'RE SO GOOD AT HIDING, WHY SUDDENLY SHOW THEMSELVES?

WHY INDEED?

GET AWAY FROM THOSE CONTROL PANELS. GUARDS! THESE TWO SLIPPED AWAY. SEIZE THEM!

I THINK IT'S *KEELER.*

WHAT THE—HEY! WE'RE FRIENDS! WE CAME ONBOARD WITH LORELAI, REMEMBER?

BACK OFF, KEEBLER.

A LITTLE ALIEN METAL...

FAR ENOUGH, PARTNER.

WE DIDN'T SLIP AWAY. WE'RE LOOKING AROUND!

WELL, I OBJECT TO YOUR LOOKING AROUND! WHATEVER FOOL STRATEGY THE PRINCESS HAS IN MIND.

WE'LL BE SLOWING SOON. I TAKE IT YOU HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS.

THAT'S PUTTING IT MILDLY.

ARE YOU UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT I OWE YOU AN EXPLANATION?

NO, IT'S... LOOK. I'VE BEEN WITH THE PLUMBERS FOR ***DECADES***. I'VE NEVER HEARD OF YOU. AND I'M PRETTY SURE THE LEADERSHIP HASN'T EITHER. HOW IS THAT ***POSSIBLE***?

WE HIDE OURSELVES VERY WELL.

WHAT DID YOU CALL YOURSELVES "PROTECTORS" OF AGAIN?

PROTECTORS OF THE ***SEAS***. IT IS OUR ADOPTED DUTY.

AND YOU SAID YOU MADE A DEAL TO KEEP THAT PEACE? BUT NOT WITH THE ***PLUMBERS***.

WITH NO ONE OF THIS EARTH.

SO: YOUR PEOPLE CAME TO EARTH. SET UP SHOP UNDER THE OCEAN. HAVE REMAINED THERE FOR CENTURIES. AND WE HAVE ***NEVER NOTICED YOU.***

WHY IS THIS A PROBLEM FOR YOU?

BECAUSE SOMEHOW YOUR PERFECT OBSCURITY IS LOST WHEN THE PRINCESS, YOUR ROYAL PROTECTOR, GETS FLIGHTY AND GIVES AWAY THE WHOLE SECRET?

THAT SEEMS TO BE THE CASE.

SO WHAT'S HER PUNISHMENT?

WHAT?

I'M JUST CURIOUS... IT SOUNDS LIKE LORELAI MUST HAVE BROKEN SOME LAWS, SO WHAT'S HER PUNISHMENT?

WE'RE GOING TO...

LET ME MAKE THIS ***EASY*** FOR YOU. IF WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS ASKING FOR HELP, WE CAN BE YOUR ALLIES. THE PLUMBERS ***WILL*** WORK WITH YOU. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ***ASK***.

BACK IN THE ENGINE ROOM.

SO HELP ME OUT WITH THIS: WHY WERE YOU ON A CRUISE SHIP, ANYWAY?

OH, I JUST—

YOUR HIGHNESS!

CAPTAIN KEELER.

I FOUND THESE TWO SNOOPING AROUND THE NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT.

GET OFF!

THEY ARE PART OF THE PLUMBERS. I GAVE THEM LEAVE TO ROAM. IS THERE A PROBLEM?

UGH... SO WE'RE GIVING THESE OUTWORLDERS A... TOUR?

YES.

AND YOU THINK THAT'S WISE?

I DON'T KNOW, DO YOU THINK IT'S WISE TO TALK TO ME THAT WAY?

WHAT'S THAT?

WHOOOOOOOO

THE ENGINE IS STOPPING. WE'RE ARRIVING AT THE EMERGENCY.

DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT THE EMERGENCY IS?

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT IT IS UNTIL YOU THROW YOURSELF INTO IT. COME ON!

WHERE?

"MY OBSERVATION DECK."

ONE MOMENT, ALL IS QUIET UNDER THE SEA.

THE NEXT... TERRAPISCISS APPEARS.

AND RISES LIKE A GIANT OUT OF THE OCEAN...

...TO FIND A SHIP IN NEED.

A HUNDRED-THOUSAND-TON CONTAINER SHIP ON *FIRE*.

WE CAN SEE THE CREW... ISOLATED AND SCARED.

HAVE THEY CALLED ANY OTHER AUTHORITIES?

TOO FAR OUT. IT'S UP TO ***US*** TO SAVE THEM.

WANT ME TO CALL THE PLUMBERS?

NO, WE'VE GOT THIS.

DO WE NEED TO BRING THE OUTWORLDERS ALONG?

LIGHTEN UP, KEELER. WE CAN HELP.

ZOOM

LORELAI AND HER PEOPLE SHOW ME WHAT THEY CAN DO.

POK

SHE STARTS BY FIRING SOME SORT OF... BALLOON.

THIS BALLOON—IT ***CALMS*** THE WAVES. IT ***SPREADS*** AND ***FLATTENS*** THE CLOUDS.

I SEE SOMEONE FALLING AND PICK A FORM.

WATER HAZARD.

GOT YA!

OUTWORLDER! BRING THAT SAILOR ***HERE***. WE'VE SET UP A ***RESCUE PLATFORM***.

THIS PLATFORM SEEMS TO BE MADE OF ***SEAWEED***. WE DRAG THE SURVIVORS ONTO IT, ONE AT A TIME.

MEANWHILE...

I GUESS... THIS IS IT.

IT CAN'T BE!

SPLASH

IT'S *NOT.*

THESE ARE *BREATHERS.* PUT THEM ON.

YOU'RE...

"YES.

"I'M WHAT YOUR POETS *DREAM OF.*"

THE SHIP GOES DOWN AS WE SAVE CREWMEN ONE BY ONE.

YOU GET THESE GUYS OUT OF THE WAY, GWEN—

RUMMBLE

AND WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THESE CONTAINERS.

THAT'S EVERYONE?

I SURE HOPE SO...

DO YOU HEAR THAT?

POUND POUND

POUND POUND

RRIIIIPPP

THOING

THIS WAY! COME ON!

WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE?

SOON WE HAVE THEM ALL GATHERED ON THE RESCUE PLATFORM. ALL OF THEM.

WAIT, ARE YOU BEN 10? WHAT IS THAT...THAT BUILDING, IN THE GLASS?

WE DON'T ANSWER.

WE FOLLOW THE MER-PEOPLE'S LEAD.

HELP IS ON THE WAY. YOU WILL FORGET US.

NEVER.

YOU *WILL.*

AND JUST LIKE THAT...

...WE'RE GONE.

CAPTAIN— IT'S THE *COAST GUARD*! WE'RE SAVED!

BUT... WE'RE ALREADY SAVED.

AREN'T WE?

WE LINGER NEARBY, INVISIBLE.

WHAT YOU GUYS DO... IT'S *AMAZING*.

BUT SOMEONE ELSE WATCHES... AND SEES THE CITY OF THE OCEAN BEFORE IT DISAPPEARS.

HIS MASTER WILL BE PLEASED.

THUNK

SPLSH

THAT WAS...

...FANTASTIC!

I KNOW! WE RESCUE... AND WE FADE INTO THE NIGHT. *LOVE* IT. I COULD BE, LIKE, A "SURF-SAVING-DUDE" *FOREVER*.

YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, COOKIE MAN.

WHAT?

AND *YOU*. HERO GIRL! THAT WAS...

THE VIEW-SCREEN CRACKLES ON.

WHOA.

THIS TIME IT'S NOT A SHIP *ON* FIRE. IT'S A SHIP ***SURROUNDED*** BY FIRE. ***OUR*** CRUISE SHIP.

PEOPLE OF TERRAPISCUSS.

I KNOW YOU VALUE THE LIVES OF THE INNOCENT. SO I GIVE YOU THIS CHOICE.

SURRENDER AND BE BOARDED. OR WE WILL DESTROY THIS VESSEL—AND THE 1200 CIVILIANS ON IT.

CHAPTER 3

art by Eddie Nuñez

I THOUGHT MY VACATION WOULD BE ***AWESOME*** AND SIMPLE: GO ON A CRUISE WITH MY GRANDPA AND MY FRIENDS. EAT ***WAY*** TOO MUCH. GET A SUNBURN.

SO THIS IS THE CRUISE SHIP I'M ***SUPPOSED*** TO BE ON. THE ONE SURROUNDED ***BY A WALL OF FIRE.***

THE OTHER SHIP, THE WEIRD ONE THAT LOOKS LIKE A SNAKE? IT BELONGS TO AN INSANE ALIEN CALLED SSSERPENT. HE'S THE REASON MY VACATION IS NO LONGER ***AWESOME.***

SSSERPENT IS THREATENING TO DESTROY THE CRUISE SHIP AND EVERYONE ON IT... UNLESS THIS CITY SURRENDERS.

A CITY ON THE WATER... A SECRET CITY CALLED TERRAPISCISS.

A MERMAID KINGDOM.

MY NAME IS BEN TENNYSON. THIS IS MY LIFE.

PEOPLE OF TERRAPISCISS. SURRENDER AND BE BOARDED...

...OR WE WILL DESTROY THIS VESSEL, AND THE 1,200 CIVILIANS ON IT.

WAIT A MINUTE!

BRIDGE OF THE SSSERPENT VOLANTE.

THESE ARE PEACEFUL PEOPLE! ALL THEY DO IS DEFEND HUMAN SHIPS! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO DEMAND THEY DO *ANYTHING!*

SEND THE INVASION FORCE.

TERRAPISCISS BRIDGE.

VERY WELL.

MY LIEGE?

"THEY'RE COMING."

SO I GUESS THAT'S HOW IT'S GONNA BE. LET'S GET READY.

"KEELER, GWEN, KEVIN...

"...YOU TAKE CARE OF THE FIRE ON THE CRUISE SHIP."

GUYS, THIS FIRE... YOU KNOW IT'S A DISTRACTION, RIGHT?

A DEADLY DISTRACTION.

...KEELER, JUST WHAT THE HECK IS THIS HOSE ***MADE*** OF?

ABOUT A BILLION TINY, SILVER FISH, ***DRYLANDER.***

UM. EW?

"THE REST OF US WILL DEFEND THE CITY."

TERRAPISCISS IS MASSIVE, WITH COUNTLESS LEVELS AND PLATFORMS. I HAVE ***NO IDEA*** WHAT THE DOME AROUND IT IS MADE OF... BUT ***NOTHING*** IS INDESTRUCTIBLE.

THE SSSERPENT SOLDIERS ARE APPROACHING. I'M HEADED OUTSIDE, GUYS.

AH, WELL. WHO NEEDS A VACATION?

ASTRODACTYL.

THIS IS ***ALL I NEED.***

THEY'RE CUTTING THROUGH THE DOME! PREPARE TO FIRE.

RIIIIP

ON ANOTHER PLATFORM...

ACK!

WHAM

HUH!

THEY'VE MADE IT THROUGH TO THE EAST WING. I COULD USE SOME BACKUP!

SORRY, SNAKE—

ZZZZZAKK

YOUR 3-HOUR TOUR HAS BEEN CANCELED.

SEE THE SKIPPER FOR A REFUND.

NOW, SSSERPENT. THAT'S ENOUGH.

THAT WAS AN EXPLOSION. WHAT HIT US?!

BOOM

THWEET

THWEET

THWEET

...THEY'VE GOT ***DRONES*** IN THE AIR, GUYS. DROPPING MISSILES!

WAIT, I RECOGNIZE THESE DRONES. THEY BELONG TO ***BLACK THORNE***.

CONFIRMED, I JUST SAW IT! BUT WHAT...?

WHAT'S BLACK THORNE?

WHOOSH

IT'S A COMPANY THAT SELLS BOMBS TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

TEAM, I NEED AN UPDATE!
WE HAVE BREACHES ALL OVER THE DOME—
MOTHER, WHAT'S YOUR SITUATION!
LORELAI? WE'RE IN THE—
THRONE ROOM. OK, I'M HERE!
THANK THE DEE—
WAIT—
SLAM
KRRRRRRRRR
KRAKKLE
FOUND YA!
WHAM
HEY, GRANDPA, SINCE WHEN DO ALIENS USE EARTH COMPANIES FOR THEIR WEAPONS?
GRANDPA... YOU THERE?
HELLO? ANYONE?
MY LIEGE? WE HAVE THEM. SHOULD WE TAKE THEM ALL HOSTAGE?
EXCELLENT. ONLY TAKE THE QUEEN. AND TAP INTO THEIR COMMS. BROADCAST THIS MESSAGE.
ATTENTION PEOPLE OF TERRAPISCISS.
HEAR ME! YOU HAVE TWO DAYS TO SEND US PROOF THAT YOU HAVE DESTROYED YOUR ARMORY AND SCUTTLED YOUR ENGINES, IF YOU EVER WANT TO SEE YOUR QUEEN ALIVE AGAIN.

AN HOUR LATER, I'M BACK WITH LORELAI, AND WE'RE TRYING TO FORM A PLAN. AN HOUR SINCE MY FRIEND LOST HER MOTHER... HER QUEEN.

THE NEAREST PLUMBER HQ IS IN HONOLULU. LORELAI WILL GET US THERE IN RECORD TIME.

THEY'LL HELP. I PROMISE.

I WAS HOPING WE COULD BRING THE ***WHOLE CITY*** USING THE TERRAPISCISS TELEPORTERS, BUT THEY REFUSE TO TAKE IT CLOSE TO LAND. NOT EVEN FOR THIS.

HONOLULU PLUMBERS
LOCAL 547

THE PLUMBERS HQ HERE IS DISGUISED AS—OF ALL THINGS—A PLUMBER'S UNION.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING?

I KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL.

THIS IS MALANO. HE RUNS THE PACIFIC REGION. HE'S NOT HUMAN, BUT I'M NOT SURE WHAT HE ***IS***.

WHAT WE HAVE, SIR, IS AN ANCIENT CITY, AN OFFSHOOT OF THE PLANET PISCISS. THEY ACT AS HEROES...

WHO DEFEND THE SEAS!

WE'VE NEVER HEARD OF THEM.

THEY STAYED ***SECRET***. SAVING SHIPS, SAVING COASTAL TOWNS.

BUT NOW SSSERPENT WANTS THEM TO STOP. HE'S ***HOLDING THEIR QUEEN HOSTAGE.***

SSSERPENT.

WHO IS A CITIZEN OF ANOTHER PLANET. THOUGH WE... DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE.

THIS IS NOT OUR CONCERN.

BUT ***HE*** ATTACKED ***THEM!*** AND THERE'S ***MORE.***

SIR, THEY WERE USING ***BLACK THORNE*** DRONES... THAT MEANS SSSERPENT IS USING EARTH COMPANIES.

HM. REALLY?

I SAW THE DRONES MYSELF.

DID YOU MANAGE TO CAPTURE ONE?

NO. THEY EXPLODED OR GOT AWAY.

WELL, EARTH TECHNOLOGY CAN BE ***STOLEN***. LOOK: THIS IS A FIGHT BETWEEN TWO ALIEN POWERS. ***LEAVE IT BE.***

SIR—

UNLESS YOU CAN ***PROVE*** THERE'S SOME DIRECT EARTH INVOLVEMENT, STAY OUT OF IT, GENTLEMEN. THAT'S AN ***ORDER.***

LORELAI PILOTS US BACK AS FAST AS BEFORE— FASTER, EVEN.

WHOOSH

WE DID WHAT WE—

I KNOW, BEN.

THE PLUMBERS HAVE RULES. IF THEY'RE HOLDING YOUR MOTHER HOSTAGE, THEY WON'T HURT HER. I'M SURE SHE'S—

I KNOW.

YOU'RE GONNA HIT THAT BUOY—

I KNOW!

WHUMP

LOOK, I KNOW IT SEEMS LIKE THIS WAS A WASTE OF TIME, BUT WE HAD TO TRY...

TERRAPISCISS HANGAR.

ARE WE GETTING OUT OF THE BOAT?

YOU SAID THERE'D BE A WAY.

I KNOW.

WE JUST HAVE TO PROVE— HUH.

WHAT?

I HAVE AN IDEA.

GWEN!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO YELL; I'M RIGHT HERE.

WE NEED YOU TO FIND A WAY TO TRACK SSSERPENT.

OF COURSE WE DO, HE KIDNAPPED THE QUEEN—

FORGET THE—

WELL, DON'T ***FORGET*** THE QUEEN, BUT THE ***KEY*** IS ***SSSERPENT***. WHERE DID HE ***TAKE*** THE QUEEN? AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE CAN GET ***PROOF.***

ROOK, DO YOU STILL HAVE YOUR STUDENT LOGIN FOR THE PLUMBERS ACADEMY?

OF COURSE.

I NEED A SATELLITE. LORELAI, HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN THERE'S A STORM?

DO YOU HAVE A WEATHER SATELLITE?

NO, WE GET THAT INFORMATION FROM JELLYFISH.

ARGH.

PFFT. OF COURSE WE HAVE A SATELLITE, WE USE IT TO COORDINATE OUR TELEPORTATION. IT'S JUST ***CLOAKED.***

THIS IS MORE LIKE IT...

GWEN, I NEED YOU TO THINK WHAT I'M THINKING, BUT THEN MAKE IT ACTUALLY ***WORK***.

YOU WANT ME TO USE ROOK'S STUDENT ID TO ACCESS THE PLUMBER SATELLITES THAT WATCH THE EARTH, AND RECORD INFORMATION FROM THE TERRAPISCISS NETWORK. WHICH INCLUDES JELLYFISH.

COME ON. I ***AM*** MORE THAN JUST A PRETTY FACE.

OK... I'M GOING TO NEED ACCESS TO THE TERRAPISCISS NETWORK ***ITSELF***.

AND THEN WE FOLLOW SSSERPENT AND SEE IF HE MEETS WITH ANYONE THAT WOULD PROVE TO THE PLUMBERS THAT THERE'S EARTH INVOLVEMENT. AND THEN WE CAN OFFICIALLY GO AFTER THEM.

CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE SHE IS?

SO YOU'RE REALLY ASKING A JELLYFISH FOR INFORMATION.

NOT JUST *A* JELLYSIFH. A WHOLE SCHOOL OF THEM.

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

THERY'RE FORMING A MAP OF THE ***OCEANS OF THE EARTH.***

WELL, I'M GLAD YOU CAN READ JELLYFISH.

THERE. ARCTIC OCEAN.

THAT... IS... ***AWESOME.***

WE SHOULD JUST TELEPORT THE CITY THERE NOW. IT IS REMOTE ENOUGH FOR US TO RISK IT.

BUT IF YOU DO THAT; IF YOU DO ***ANYTHING*** BUT DISARM AS HE'S ASKED, SSSERPENT COULD HARM THE QUEEN.

TRANSFERRING COORDINATES.

ACCESSING TERRAPISCISS SATELLITE.

FOCUSING.

PLUMBER SATELLITE ON LINE AND RECORDING.

OK. WE'RE RECORDING... THAT'S IT. THAT'S SSSERPENT'S HEADQUARTERS IN THE FAR NORTH.

IT LOOKS LIKE... SOME SORTA ALIEN IGLOO.

SO WE'LL CALL IT AN IGLOO. BUT BEN, IT'S THE MOST HEAVILY GUARDED IGLOO EVER.

AND THAT'S AN ***EARTH*** SUBMARINE.

CAN YOU SEE ANY MARKINGS?

THIS IS AS CLOSE AS WE CAN GET VIA THIS SAT LINK.

SO, YOUR TELEPORTERS: HOW MAJOR DOES THIS EMERGENCY HAVE TO BE? BECAUSE...

ARCTIC OCEAN.

WE SOON FIND OURSELVES RIGHT BELOW SSSERPENT'S IGLOO... AND HIS TOYS.

IT'S COLD UP HERE, EVEN IN THIS ALIEN FORM.

LORELAI'S A PRO... SHE OPERATES LIKE SHE BREAKS INTO HIDEOUTS ALL THE TIME.

ROCKMICHAEL INDUSTRIES.

GWEN, ARE YOU GUYS RECORDING THIS?

ROCKMICHAEL INDUSTRIES.

YES. WE'LL FIND OUT WHAT ROCKMICHAEL INDUSTRIES IS.

I WANT A LOOK AROUND THIS SUB. WE'VE GOT TO GET CONCRETE EVIDENCE.

BEN? THEY'VE NOTICED US.

ANALYSIS

TerraPisciss, however, presents a problem because, unlike Earth's governments, the Mermaid Kingdom cannot be bought. If we are to successfully persuade the people of Earth that only we can keep their oceans safe-- ar that they will suffer damage if they do not pay what we ask-- TerraPisciss must

HUH.

THEY'RE PLANNING TO ELIMINATE TERRAPISCISS SO THEY CAN START THREATENING SHIPS AND GET EVERYONE TO PAY THEM RANSOM MONEY. IT'S A PROTECTION RACKET. AND A HECKUVA A GOOD ONE, TOO.

ANALYSIS

MEMO

TerraPisciss, however, presents a problem because, unlike Earth's governments, the Mermaid Kingdom cannot be bought. If we are to successfully persuade the people of Earth that only we can keep their oceans safe-- ar that they will suffer damage if they do not pay what we ask-- TerraPisciss must b

BEN, COME ON—

RRRIIPPPPP

HUHN!

WHAP

BEN! HE'S HERE!

GUARDS!

WE DON'T HAVE THE MANPOWER. WE GOTTA GO... FOR NOW.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR! STOP THEM!

KLIK

GOTCHA.

GWEN, I'M SENDING SOME MORE PHOTOS FOR YOU TO ANALYZE.

TELEPORT US OUT OF HERE IN FIVE... FOUR... THREE... TWO...

"...ONE."

WHAM

NOW. YOU HAVE YOUR *PROOF.*

EARTH FORCES ARE CONSPIRING WITH SSSERPENT.

THEY'RE MAKING THE OCEANS MORE DANGEROUS, AND THEN CHARGING EARTH GOVERNMENTS MONEY FOR "PROTECTION." WE HAVE TO STOP THEM.

IT'S TIME FOR THE PLUMBERS TO GO KICK SOME SSSERPENT TAIL.

CHAPTER 4

art by Eddie Nuñez

SOUTH PACIFIC PLUMBER HEADQUARTERS, HONOLULU.

A GATHERING OF HEROES.

OKAY, EVERYONE. THIS IS THE SSSERPENT VOLANTE, A SHIP USED TO TERRORIZE THE WORLD'S OCEANS. THE BUILDING IS THE ARCTIC HIDEOUT OF SSSERPENT, THE ALIEN WE'RE LOOKING FOR. WE'RE CALLING IT THE IGLOO.

THIS IS THE QUEEN OF TERRAPISCISS, AN UNDERWATER CITY OF ALIEN MER-PEOPLE, WHO HAVE VOWED TO PROTECT THE OCEANS. SSSERPENT IS HOLDING THE QUEEN AT THE IGLOO. IT'S TIME TO ***GO GET HER.***

THE PLUMBERS DON'T USUALLY GET BETWEEN ALIEN GROUPS. LIKE THIS FIGHT BETWEEN SSSERPENT AND TERRAPISCISS.

BUT THEN WE DISCOVERED SSSERPENT MADE A DEAL WITH CROOKED EARTH COMPANIES TO DESTROY THE CITY AND RULE THE SEAS HIMSELF.

SO WE'RE INVOLVED NOW. THE MISSION: RESCUE THE QUEEN. AND BRING SSSERPENT TO JUSTICE.

I'VE GOT SOME OLD FRIENDS WITH ME... LIKE KEVIN, WHO CAN TRANSFORM HIS SKIN INTO ANY SUBSTANCE HE TOUCHES AND, SOME NEW... LIKE LORELAI, A WARRIOR OF TERRAPISCISS, AND AS IT HAPPENS, A PRINCESS.

ON THE OTHER SHIP, THERE'S MY COUSIN GWEN, WHO WIELDS ALIEN MAGIC.

THERE'S KEENER, A TERRAPISCIAN WARRIOR...

...AND ROOK, MY PARTNER IN THE PLUMBERS.

SO ABOUT YOU NOT TRUSTING US?

I AM STARTING TO TAKE IT BACK.

THAT WAS ***ALMOST*** AN APOLOGY.

GUYS, WE'RE COMING UP ON THE IGLOO. GRANDPA MAX, YOU READING?

WE READ YOU 5 BY 5, BEN.

AND GWEN, KEEP YOUR CAMERA READY. I WANT ***FILM*** WHEN WE CONFRONT SSSERPENT.

GO!

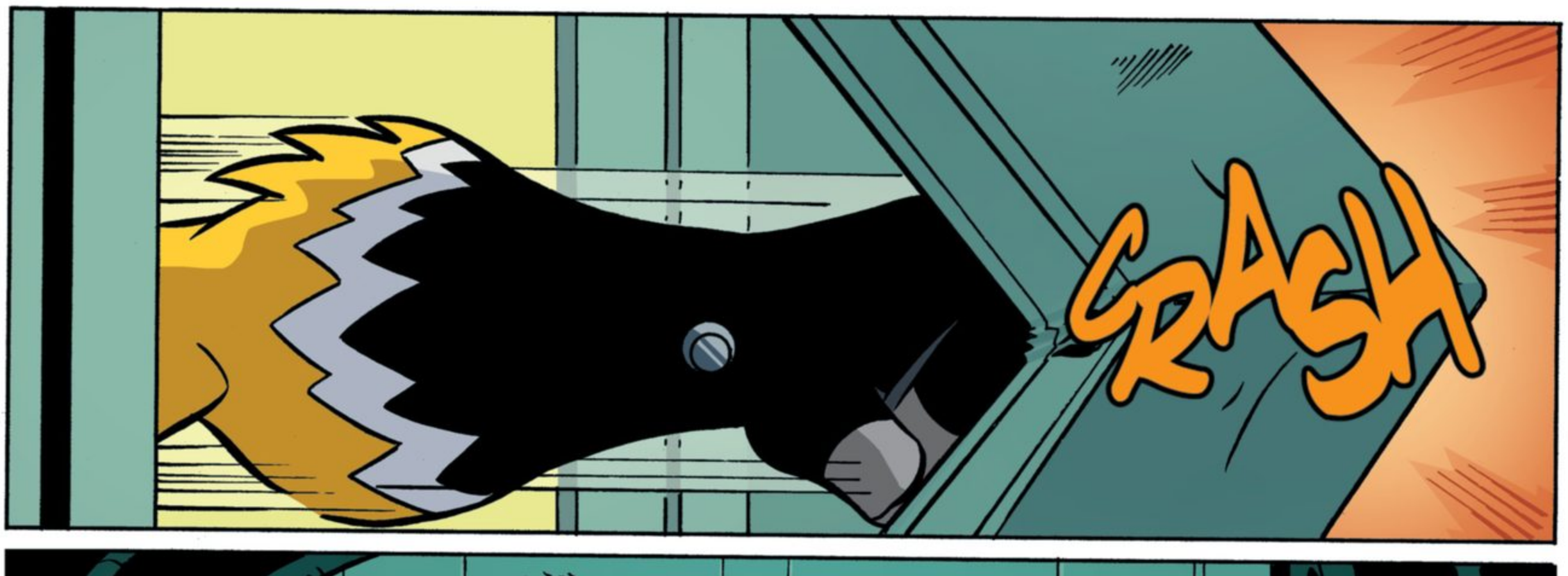
EVERYONE KNOWS THEIR JOB.

WE NEED TWO MEN GUARDING THE SSSERPENT VOLANTE, MAKE SURE NOBODY LEAVES!

WHAT THE—

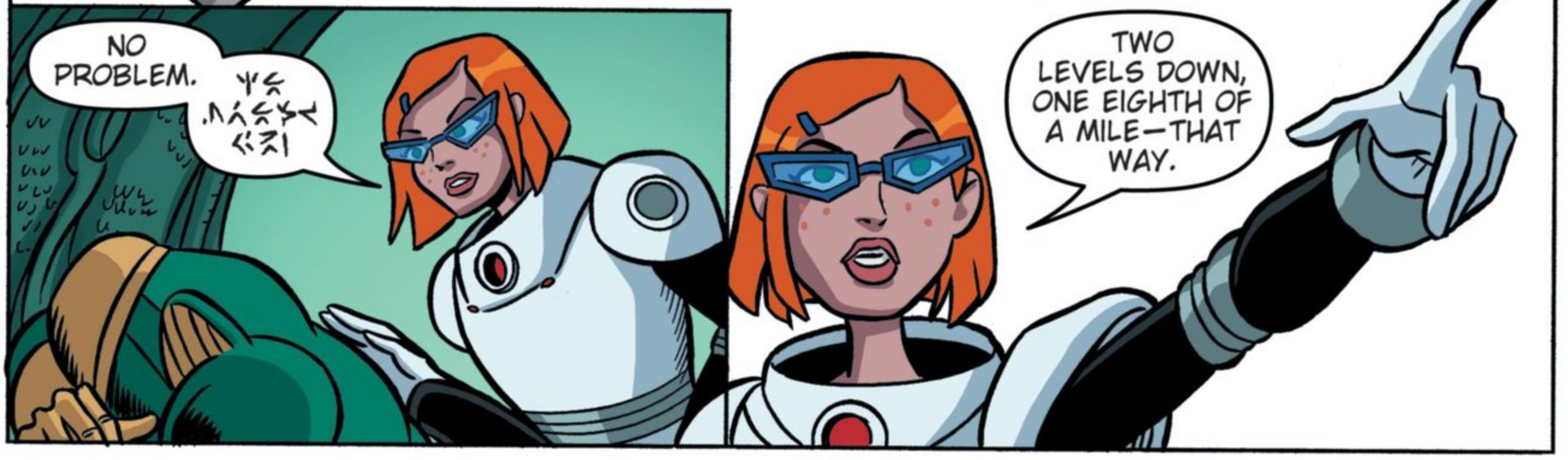
OH, THIS? SHOCKSQUATCH.

I COME UP WITH THESE NAMES MYSELF.


CRASH

UM, CAN I SAY... UGH?
I MEAN, IT'S A SNAKE'S DEN, WHATTAYAGONNADO?
THIS IS WHAT IT'S LIKE IN THE PLUMBERS. WE GO PLACES NO ONE ELSE WANTS TO GO.

WE'VE GOT GUARDS!
WHAM
CRASH
JUST TWO? THAT'S WEIRD.
I'LL SAY. THIS PLACE SEEM A LITTLE... UNINHABITED TO YOU?
GWEN! I NEED YOU TO FIND OUT WHERE THE DETENTION AREA IS.


NO PROBLEM.
TWO LEVELS DOWN, ONE EIGHTH OF A MILE—THAT WAY.

ANNNNND THIS DOOR IS ALSO UNGUARDED. OKAY. SOMETHING IS TOTALLY...

NOT RIGHT?

ABSOLUTELY.

KRAAAANG

LORELAI!

MOTHER! WE BROUGHT THE OUTWORLDERS.

I SEE. OF COURSE.

UH, BEN, WE'RE FEELIN' LIKE THE BIG RESCUE FORCE WAS KINDA NOT NEEDED.

WHERE IS THE ***REST*** OF SSSERPENT'S CREW?

I HAVE NO IDEA. IT WAS LOUD AS A HURRICANE ALL DAY, THEN I HEARD ENGINES AN HOUR AGO.

THEN NOTHING.

BEN? THIS SSSERPENT SHIP WE'RE GUARDING? IT'S A *HOLOGRAM*.

THE REAL SHIP IS GONE!

AND I HATE TO POINT THIS OUT, BUT THIS ROOM IS LINED WITH PLASTIC EXPLOSIVE.

YOU'RE KIDDING.

OF ALL THE THINGS I COULD START KIDDING PEOPLE ABOUT, YOU THINK A WALL OF C-4 WOULD BE THE ONE?

WE NEED TO GO.

...

EVERYONE OUT! IT'S A TRAP! WE HAVE THE QUEEN, LET'S GO!

THERE'S MORE EXPLOSIVES IN THESE WALLS. IT'S EVERYWHERE!

GREAT.

INTO THE WATER! DIVE!

KA-BOOM

I HEAR THE GROANING OF METAL. THE PLUMBER SHIPS ARE IN TROUBLE.

BEN! YOUR SHIPS! THEY'VE BEEN STRUCK BY DEBRIS—

NO TIME. NEED A PHASING POWER SO THAT METAL SAILS RIGHT THROUGH US.

BIG CHILL.

SO THE SHIPS ARE DESTROYED...

I KNOW...

SPLASH

HOW THE HECK DO WE GET OUT OF HERE NOW?!

WE KNOW THIS MUCH...

"WE KNOW WHERE SSSERPENT IS."

WHOOOOSH

"HE'S GOING TO ATTACK THE CITY. AND WE'RE NOT THERE. SSSERPENT TRICKED US, AND WE PLAYED RIGHT INTO HIS TRAP."

I CAN *FLY* THERE.

I CAN FLY TOO.

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, WE NEED MORE THAN THAT. WE NEED AN ARMY.

THERE HAS TO BE A WAY.

THE CITY'S SHIELDS WILL HOLD FOR A WHILE...

BUT BY THE TIME THEY GIVE OUT, WE'D BETTER HAVE A PLAN.

SO WHEN WE FIRST MET, WHAT WAS THE DEAL WITH THE ICE SCULPTURE?

WHAT? WE NEED A PLAN, BEN!

MY GRANDPA SAYS SOMETIMES IT HELPS TO THINK OF SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT THINKING ABOUT, IF YOU FOLLOW ME. ANYWAY. WHY WERE YOU DESTROYING A MERMAID SCULPTURE?

WE TEND TO FIND DEPICTIONS OF MERMAIDS OFFENSIVE.

YOU MUST BE OFFENDED A LOT.

DON'T EVEN GET ME STARTED ON THAT COFFEE LOGO.

SO YOU'RE PROTECTING... YOUR POWER?

WE'RE CREATURES THAT CAN CALM THE WINDS AND TALK TO EELS. YES, WE HIDE.

BUT IT'S DIFFERENT NOW...?

MAYBE.

WAIT.

YOU AND GWEN CAN *FLY*.

YEAH, BUT WE CAN'T CARRY A BUNCH OF SOLDIERS!

BUT, WE DON'T *NEED* A WHOLE ARMY. WE'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE ON OUR SIDE...

HOW FAR ARE WE FROM THE CITY NOW?

CLOSE ENOUGH.

SHIELDS DOWN TO 15%.

KEEP FIRING!

LOWER LEVELS HAVE BEEN BREACHED.

BREACHED?

BOOM

KRAK-BOOM

HERE THEY COME!

THOOM THOOM THOOM

ON THE WATER...

WE HAVE AN ENTRANCE.

TO THE TERRAPISCUSS ENGINE ROOM!

BEEP BEEP

BEEP BEEP

5:00

CRASH

WHOA! DID YOU FEEL THE CHANGE IN THE AIR?

WHAT?

THE WIND, SUCKING BACK TOWARDS THE HORIZON... I NEARLY LOST MY BALANCE.

WHOA! WATCH OUT! KEEP THE SHIP LEVEL!

EVERYONE FEELS IT. A CITY HOLDS ITS *BREATH*.

RUMMMBBLLLE

10

RUMMMMBBBLLLLLLE

THE SEA IS OUR *FRIEND.*

YAAGHH!

WHAM

WHOOM

AND WE BROUGHT OUR FRIEND *WITH US.*

THE WAVE IS TAKING OUT THE SMALL SHIPS—

SIR, SOMETHING IS CUTTING THROUGH THE HULL!

YOU KNOW, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU SNAKE GUYS GET PAID...

WHAM

BUT IT'S SURE NOT ENOUGH.

WHERE IS SSSERPENT?

YOU'RE TOO LATE.

COUNT DOWN

02:3

OH, MERCIFUL POSEIDON, HE'S TAKEN A BOMB TO THE CITY.

COUNTDOW

02:25

GWEN! CAN I HAVE YOUR SHOULDER CAMERA?

10

VROOOOMMMM

CLICK

RECORDING.

GRANDPA, ARE YOU GETTING THIS?

I GOT YOU.

BLOG IT. PUT IT RIGHT OUT TO THE WORLD.

BUT BEN, THAT CITY IS SUPPOSED TO BE A SECRET...

NOT TODAY. TODAY WE NEED THE WORLD TO ***KNOW*** WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING.

ARGH!

THOOM THOOM THOOM

ZOWOW

MAKE WAY! SUPERHEROES COMING THROUGH!

THIS IS BEN TENNYSON BROADCASTING TO... WHOEVER WILL LISTEN. YOU ALL KNOW ME. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, SO I'LL BE SHORT.

THE OCEANS ARE ***YOURS***. THEY'RE ALL OF OURS. WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW IS: THERE ARE ***HEROES*** IN THE OCEAN THAT PROTECT US ***ALL***.

THIS THE ENGINE ROOM?
YES.
DIAMONDHEAD.
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WOULD DO THESE HEROES *HARM*.
KRAASH
WHAP
CHOOM
CHOOM
BUT NOT *TODAY*.
HISSSSSS.

THAT'S IT, SSSERPENT. IT'S OVER.

HA. YOU SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT THE SSSSMART ONE. I GUESS WE ALL HAVE... WELL... TEN SECONDS.

:10

IT'S OKAY. TEN IS MY *LUCKY NUMBER.*

SEE YOU SOON.

I GRAB THE BOMB, AND SURROUND IT IN CRYSTALS. THIS MIGHT NOT BE ENOUGH.

:10

IT'S GETTING *HEAVY*. RUN.

WE'RE DEEP UNDERWATER WHEN THE BOMB DETONATES. THE CRYSTAL SHIELD HOLDS.

TWO DAYS LATER.

Undersea allies save ocean **aliens** or **mermaids**? or **both**?

AFTER ALL OF THAT, WE STILL HAVE TIME FOR THE REST OF OUR VACATION.

WHAT'S NEXT?

WELL, SINCE YOU EXPOSED US TO EVERYONE, MY MOTHER HAS ASKED ME TO BE THE LIAISON TO THE OUTER WORLD. I THINK I'M GONNA BE ON "LETTERMAN."

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT IS. IT WAS JUST SOMETHING THE ***AGENT*** SAID.

YOU ALREADY HAVE AN AGENT? I DON'T EVEN HAVE AN—

LETTERMAN?

YOU SHOULD STOP TALKING NOW.

UM. I CAN TAKE YOU. TO THE LETTERMAN SHOW.

WHAT?

OH, I WON'T BE THERE IN PERSON. IT WILL BE BY REMOTE. FOR US TO DO WHAT WE DO—NOW MORE THAN EVER—WE HAVE TO *DISAPPEAR.*

WHAT? BUT WHY? YOU DON'T HAVE TO DISAPPEAR. WE CAN ***WORK*** TOGETHER. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU NOTICED, BUT WE WERE A ***GREAT TEAM.***

HEY, MAN, YOU PLANNING ON—

HANG ON!

WE WILL ALWAYS BE A TEAM.

SPLASH

YES, WE WILL.

THE END. FOR NOW.

Art Gallery

art by Eddie Nuñez

art by **Gordon Purcell**
colors by **Zac Atkinson**

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